The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Saturday the 17th day of March 1923, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions, and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Abolition of the Sub-Magistrate's Court at Virudupatti.

899 *Q.*—Mr. A. M. Ahmad Miran Sahib: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have received any memorial from the inhabitants of Virudupatti, Ramnad district, praying that the office of the Sub-Magistrate at Virudupatti should not be abolished but should be retained; and if the answer is in the affirmative what action has been taken thereon?

A.—Yes. No action was taken. The office was abolished as a measure of economy.

Dismissal and reinstatement of sub-registrars and clerks.

900 *Q.*—Mr. A. M. Ahmad Miran Sahib: Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Registration) be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of sub-registrars, clerks and peons dismissed by the present Inspector-General in 1922 and 1923;

(*b*) in how many cases appeals were preferred to (*a*) the Minister for Education and (*b*) to His Excellency the Governor of Madras; and

(*c*) in how many cases the appealing sub-registrars and clerks were reinstated?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 906.

The Religious Endowments Bill.

901 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur Govindas Chathurbhujadas: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) the number of protests received in his department against the Hindu Religious Endowments Bill up to date;

(2) the number of representations in favour of the Bill;

(3) the number of protests from or on behalf of mutts or matadhipathis in the Presidency;

(4) the number of applications received for appearance before the Select Committee in charge of the Bill and for examination by the Committee; and

(5) the number of applicants selected for examination by the Select Committee?

A.—(1) to (3) Up to the 22nd January 1923—the date fixed by the Select Committee for the receipt of representations about the Bill—249 representations were received. It is not possible to classify these according as they are in favour or against the Bill as in many cases the same representation is in favour of some provisions of the Bill and against others. It is difficult to say whether representations are on behalf of mutts or not, but the number of representations which are clearly headed as from or on behalf of a mutt or a matadhipati is 27.

(4) Twenty-six sets of witnesses offered themselves for examination.

(5) Twelve were selected for examination but one of these did not appear to give evidence.

Murder cases committed and detected in the Presidency.

902 *Q.*—Mr. A. T. Palmer: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state for the year 1921–22 the number of murder cases, the number detected and punished in the Madras Presidency?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to statement A in Appendix A, and paragraph 15 of the Police Administration Report for the year 1921 and paragraph 14 of the High Court's Review of the Criminal Statistics for 1921. Figures for 1922 are not yet available.

Improvement of religious and charitable endowments.

903 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table all the Bills considered by the Government from 1850 till now regarding the improvement of the religious and charitable endowments and trusts?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Bills published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* at the following pages:—

(1) Pages 1–3 of the *Fort St. George Gazette* Supplement, dated 31st March 1896.

(2) Pages 1–3 of the *Fort St. George Gazette* Supplement, dated 13th April 1897.

(3) Pages 101–103 of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, Part III, dated 30th September 1919.

Mamul wet survey operations.

904 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur M. C. Raja: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the mamul wet survey operations were started in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts;

(*b*) when they were closed and why; and

(*c*) the net recurring gain that accrued to the Government from the mamul wet survey operations in Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts by levying fasaljasti and water-rates in respect of non-mamul wet areas in the whole inam and zamindari villages of these districts?